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League of Women Voters of the Huntington
Area Bulletin 1990-1999

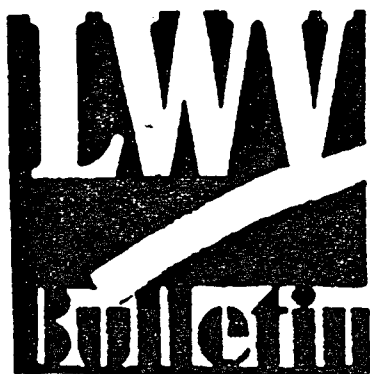
League of Women Voters of the Huntington
Area Bulletin

5-1993

LWV Bulletin, May, 1993

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MAY 1993

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WEST VIRGINIA KIDS COUNT

How West Virginia's Children Are Doing

WV KIDS COUNT Indicator	State Trends Over the 1980s	County Trends Over the 1980s
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	30% Better	45 Counties Better
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	22% Better	37 Counties Better
Juvenile arrest rate (per 1,000 teens)	14% Worse	29 Counties Worse
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)	22% Better	49 Counties Better
Percent births to unmarried teens (age 19 and under)	No Change	28 Counties Better
Percent high school dropouts	34% Better	51 Counties Better
Teen injury death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	8% Better	33 Counties Better
Percent births to low-educated mothers	18% Better	52 Counties Better
Percent children in single-parent families	45% Worse	55 Counties Worse
Percent children in poverty	40% Worse	47 Counties Worse

The data presented in this report reflects the status of children and their families in each West Virginia county. There is good news and bad news. The good news is that in most of our counties fewer babies are dying before their first birthday, West Virginia mothers have more education today than before, fewer children are dropping out of high school and fewer teens are having babies. The bad news is that these improvements have not been achieved in all 55 counties and that in most of our counties, more children are poor and more children are living in single-parent families.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to men and women of voting age. Annual dues, not tax deductible, are \$30 individual, \$45 for two in one household. To join, contact Dorothy Barenklau, Treasurer, 63 Sequoia Dr. (25705)

CHARTER AMENDMENTS

On the June 1 ballot, Huntington voters will vote on charter amendments, prepared by the charter board. League members will present a pro-con discussion of the amendments at the League's May meeting. Following is a brief description of the amendments:

Revised Section 2.8 "The Mayor shall attend every meeting of a Council..." (The present charter requires the Mayor or a designated subordinate to attend Council meetings.)

Revised Section 3.9 Spells out how ordinances are adopted rather than just referring to the state code.

Add Section 3.19 Allows Council to withhold Mayor's compensation if Mayor does not comply with non-discretionary duties as spelled out in the charter.

Eliminate Article 7 and Renumber 8-14 to 7-13

Revised and Numbered:

Section 8.1: City Manager, Qualifications, Selection and Tenure Requires a City Manager of proven executive and administrative ability, with at least 5 years actual experience as a City Manager and with membership in the International City Management Association; appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of Council, serving at the will and pleasure of the Mayor; and with the salary fixed by Council. The City Manager shall be head of the Department of Administration and Finance. (The present charter requires a Director of Administration and Finance, hired by and under the supervision of the Mayor, who shall have knowledge of municipal accounting and taxation and shall have experience in budgeting and financial control. The Director supervises Divisions of Finance, Purchasing, Personnel, Data Processing, and other duties required by the Mayor.)

Section 8.2: Powers and Duties With oversight by the Mayor, the City Manager would supervise, direct, and control the work of the Divisions of Public Works, Finance, Purchasing, Personnel, Data Processing, Central Garage and Motor Pool, and other divisions, departments, and personnel as the Mayor may require.

(Was 7.1) Section 8.4: Division of Public Works, Director of Public Works, Qualifications - Same as in the old charter, but omits appointment by the Mayor.

(Was 7.2) Section 8.5: Powers and Duties of the Director of Public Works. Under the control of the City Manager rather than the Mayor; adds to "perform such other duties as may be required of him or her by this charter, the Mayor, Council", or the City Manager.

(Was 7.4) Section 8.7: City Engineer, Qualifications Removes appointment by the Mayor.

(Was 9.12) Section 8.17: Personnel Powers and Duties of Mayor. Adds City Manager (was "or his or her subordinate"); removes "the policy and procedure governing persons holding provisional appointments"; allows an acting officer or employee, but the term can not extend longer than 120 days (present charter - 60 days for temporary appointments). Deviations from the qualifications of the permanent position by a temporary or acting officer shall be subject to the approval of Council. If Mayor fails to appoint within 120 days, the Council shall appoint the officer

(Was 14.11) Section 8.25: Central Garage and Motor Pool; Fleet Manager; Qualifications Provides for them as in the present charter. Adds "The Fleet Manager shall be a person of proven experience in fleet vehicle administration."

Section 8.26: Powers and Duties The Fleet Manager will be charged with implementing and enforcing Section 13.11.

(Was 14.11) Section 13.11 Central Garage and Motor Pool. Removes Mayor from establishing rules and regulations and adds City Manager and Fleet Manager.

(Was 10.6) Section 9.6 Shortened and adds "Council shall meet upon call by the Chairman for work sessions on the budget, whether to adopt the budget with or without amendment." The attendance requirements of 3.13 and 3.17 of the present charter would apply to budget meetings, also -- Council members must attend 60% of the meetings or he or she is disqualified from serving on Council.

Revised Section 4.2: City Attorney, Powers and Duties Adds the City Manager to the offices which the City Attorney represents.

League of Women Voters

HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

YEAR IN REVIEW

1992-93

VOTERS SERVICE

Prepared candidate surveys and responses for publication in the Herald-Dispatch - 1992 primary, general elections; 1993 primary election for Huntington mayor and council
Cosponsored a School Board Candidates meeting
Arranged for school board candidates to appear on "Cross Talk"
Appeared on TV programs before the election and talked to organizations about voting
Registered voters - Marshall University; Huntington Mall; Coalition for the Homeless; Newcomers; publicized on-site registration at schools and retirement homes
Promoted "First Vote", "Getting into Issues" and the "Debate Game" in the schools
Provided election information to the Herald-Dispatch for its publication for the schools; for the library; for the Center for Independent Living; and for the Leadership Tri-State Conference
Distributed VOTE posters; TV, newspaper, and CSR notices; Letters to the Editor
Election Day Call In Service, primary and general elections
Assisted with debates on WPBY-TV

ACTION - LOCAL

Waste Management and Recycling - Statements and letters to the Huntington City Council (includes a letter-to-the editor)
Recreation - Asked Cabell County legislators to retain the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District. Letter to school board asking that the Gallagher school site be converted into a park. Attended GHPRD board meetings.
Letter to the newspaper asking that it again feature a column which lists the time and place of public meetings.

- STATE

Meeting with WV legislators, state legislative priorities.
Support of Constitutional Amendment 1
Support of the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

- NATIONAL

Campaign Finance
Motor Voter (includes a letter-to-the editor)

PUBLICATIONS

"Summer Fun", recreational opportunities for children and youth
"92 Guide to Vote" and November Election "Update"
"Guide to the WV Legislature" and "Directory of Public Officials and Personnel"
"Fact Sheet on the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District"

LEAGUE MEETINGS

Children, Youth, and Families Task Force - Lyle Sattes
New Departures in Peace Keeping - Clair Matz
Health Care consensus meeting
Local Tax Study and consensus on funding the Greater Huntington Parks District
Presentation of the state legislative platform to our state legislators
Children's Advocacy and Treatment Center - Barbara Tinsman

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Earth Day table and activities in Ritter Park
Gave speeches on "Environmental Shopping" to other organizations
Finance Drive

ATTENDED MEETINGS

Social Policy - WV Human Resources Association Conference; Regional Health Care Planning Commission meeting; Conference on Health Care; Regional Meetings of WV Task Force on Families and Children; WV Cabinet Hearings on Families and Children
WV Conference on Recycling; WV Conference on Biodiversity
Cabell County Solid Waste Authority, Park Board, and Huntington City Council meetings

Reminder about the June 1st Election for the Huntington Summit High School Site and Absentee Ballots

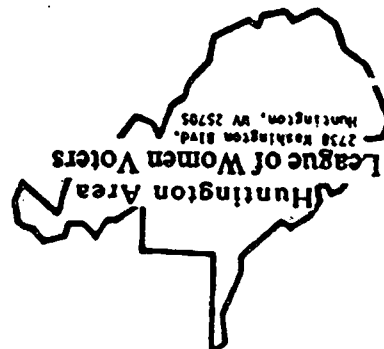
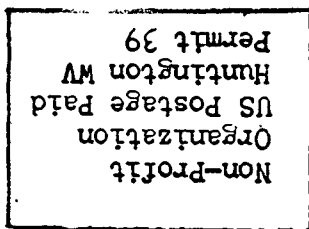
Because the Memorial Day Holiday immediately precedes the June 1st election, many citizens may take the opportunity for a four-day weekend trip. Please encourage people to vote an "Absentee Ballot". There are several ways and times to do this.

Prior to May 17, if a voter is ill and cannot get to the polls (as in a bedridden individual or with a scheduled hospital stay), he or she can request an application for an absentee ballot from the Circuit Clerk's Office, 526-8622. You can also request an application for an absentee ballot if you know that you will be out-of-town.

After May 17, you may vote in person at the Circuit Clerk's Office in the Cabell County Court House, room 114. The hours are 8:30-4:30, Monday through Friday (May 17-21 and May 24-28).

On Saturday, May 29, you may vote in the Circuit Clerk's Office from 8:30-12:00.

(Check with the Barboursville and Huntington City Offices for timelines concerning their municipal elections.



Calendar

MAY	17	LEAGUE MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Topic: Issues on the June 1st ballot Speakers: Greg Williamson, Architect for Huntington Summit High School League members about charter amendments in Huntington 7:30 p.m. Enslow Park Presbyterian Church
	4	Board of Education -- Central Office League members MAY present
	10-11	Community Involvement Celebration for Cabell County Public Schools League will participate -- Memorial Field House
	24	LWV Board of Director Mtg., 11:30, Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church
	25	League will co-sponsor with the HHS and HEHS Academic Boosters a meeting about the two sites for Huntington Summit High School. Martha Woodward will moderate.

Thank you to CAROL STROUD for her excellent job chairing the Voters Service portfolio. We will all miss her when she moves to St. Louis.

Congratulations to FRAN NORTON - newly appointed to the Cabell County Solid Waste Authority.

Leaguers who staffed a League table at Earth Day in Ritter Park were VIRGINIA HENSLEY, BETTE BISHOP and HELEN GIBBINS.

The Ohio River Sweep is scheduled for June 19. Those who are interested in helping may call Judy Rule, Director of the Cabell County Public Library, or 1-800-359-3977.

SUMMER FUN will be ready during the last couple weeks of May. ROSE RITER has taken this task on and has done her usual wonderful job.



And, it's that time of year again. Please send your annual League dues (\$30.00) to Treasurer Dorothy Barenklau, 63 Sequoia Drive, Huntington (25705).